

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

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NO. 19.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D. AND R. A. SNOW, M. D., EDITORS.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEB 5, 1848.

NEW YORK

HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY
ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of medical and lay gentlemen called for the purpose of re-organizing the New-York Homœopathic Dispensary, was held at No. 57 Bond Street, pursuant to notice, Dec. 27, 1847.

The meeting was called to order, and upon nomination, Benjamin R. Winthrop was appointed Chairman, and Ferris Pell Secretary.

Dr. Bayard stated the object of the meeting, and made an exposition of the mea-

sures which had been taken to establish a Homœopathic Dispensary—their partial success—the obstacles met with—and the measures proposed to enlarge its usefulness.

He was followed by Doct. McVickar, who after a few remarks, read a Constitution and By-Laws, which had been prepared, and moved that the same be adopted.

After some discussion was had, and some of the Articles of the Constitution of the Society had been adopted, it was on motion—

Resolved, that a committee of five be appointed, composed of laymen and physicians, for the purpose of drafting a Constitution and By Laws to be submitted to a future meeting.

Whereupon, Dr. Kirby, Dr. Bayard, Dr. Joslin, Mr. Adams and Mr. Eaton were appointed said committee. Dr. Kirby requesting to be excused, Mr. Pell was appointed in his place.

The meeting then adjourned to Thursday evening, Dec. 30th, at 8 o'clock.

At a meeting held at No. 57 Bond street, pursuant to adjournment, on Thursday evening, Dec. 30th, 1847,

Mr. Winthrop in the Chair, Mr. Pell, Secretary:—The Committee reported a Constitution and By-Laws, which, with various modifications, were adopted in the following words.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be denominated the New York Homœopathic Dispensary Association.

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Association shall be the establishment and conducting of one or more

Homœopathic Dispensaries in the city of New York.

ARTICLE III.

This Association shall be composed of the undersigned Physicians and Laymen, and of such others as may be elected in accordance with its By-Laws.

ARTICLE IV.

The management of the affairs of this Association shall be under the direction of a Board of Trustees, to consist of thirty members, who are not Physicians. They shall be elected annually by ballot, a majority of the votes being necessary to a choice. Vacancies occurring in the Board during the year, shall be filled by the Board at their monthly meetings—the candidate being nominated at one meeting and his nomination acted upon at the next. Such Physicians and Surgeons as may be appointed by the Trustees to attend at the Dispensaries, shall be, ex-officio, members of the Board during the term of such appointment, but without the right of voting on any question.

ARTICLE V.

The Officers of this Association shall be a President, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary, to be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the Association, a majority of the votes being necessary to a choice. Such officers shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VI.

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Association, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present; provided that notice in writing of such proposed alteration or amendment shall have been given at a previous meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE VII.

Whenever a motion for an alteration or amendment to this Constitution shall be made, such alteration or amendment shall not be entertained until after the expiration of at least one month from the time of the meeting at which such alteration shall have been proposed, and notice of such proposed alteration

shall be given to each member of the Association by the Secretary.

Signed,

S. R. Kirby, M. D.	Ferris Pell,
Edward Bayard, M. D.,	W. L. Cochran,
B. F. Joslin, M. D.,	Henry A. Kerr,
John Taylor, M. D.,	Wm. Kemeys,
Samuel B. Barlow, M. D.,	Thos. Denny,
R. A. Snow, M. D.,	J. T. Adams,
J. Aug. McVickar, M. D.,	W. H. Hoople,
R. M. Bolles, M. D.,	W. K. Lothrop,
B. F. Bowers, M. D.,	Lorenzo Snow,
Clark Wright, M. D.,	Bayard Clark,
H. Hull Cator, M. D.	Jacob R. LeRoy,
Edmund Lathrop,	John Caswell,
Alexis Eustapheive,	John Gray,
Dani C. Eaton,	W. F. Leggett,
Wm. J. Peck,	B. W. Clapp,
M. Gibney.	Jas. S. Surges.

BY-LAWS.

I.

The annual meeting of this Association shall be on the first Tuesday in December in every year at eight o'clock, P. M.; at which time the Board of Trustees shall submit their Annual Report. Special meetings of the Association may be called by a vote of the Board of Trustees; at which meeting, candidates for membership, nominated by the Board, may be balloted for.

II.

The Board of Trustees shall meet on the first Tuesday of each month, at eight o'clock, P. M. Five voting members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum; at which meetings the attending Physicians of the Dispensary may be appointed.

III.

The President, Vice Presidents and Secretary of the Association shall be, ex-officio, the officers of the Board of Trustees, and in the absence of any or all of them, the vacancy for the time being shall be supplied by the Board.

IV.

It shall be the duty of the President or Vice Presidents, to preside at the meetings of the Association, and of the Board of Trustees, and in case of the absence of all, a presiding officer shall be appointed, pro-tem.

V.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of the Association and of the Board of Trustees; to call special meetings of the Board upon the requisition of three or more members, and to give due notice of the meetings of the Board, and of the Association.

VI.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all the monies belonging to the Association, and to make all disbursements authorized by the Board of Trustees. He shall make a Report quarterly to the Board of Trustees, and annually to the Association.

VII.

The Treasurer's accounts shall be audited annually, by a committee of two members to be appointed by the Board of Trustees.

VIII.

The Dispensaries shall be open for at least one hour in each day, Sundays excepted; at which time it shall be the duty of two of the Physicians appointed by the Board of Trustees to be present.

IX.

Each member of this Association shall pay at least One Dollar per Annum to the Treasurer.

X.

At each meeting of the Board of Trustees there shall be elected a committee of three members of the Board whose duty it shall be to visit the Dispensaries at least, once in each week, and who for the time being, shall be a committee of advice to act with the Physicians; and who shall keep a Book of Minutes in which to record their visits and any advice they may have to offer.

XI.

A Record Book or Books shall be provided for each Dispensary, in which the name of each Patient shall be inserted, the date of admission, a detail of the case, treatment and result, if known, to be kept by the Physicians.

XII.

Any person contributing to the funds of the Association, may have the privilege of sending patients, in indigent circumstances, for medical or surgical treatment to the Dispensary.

HON. WILLIAM T. McCOUN, *President.*

FERRIS PELL, Esq., *1st Vice President.*

JNO. T. ADAMS, Esq., *2nd do*

THOMAS DENNY, Esq., *Treasurer.*

WM. K. LOTHROP, Esq., *Secretary.*

Board of Trustees.

Wm. T. McCoun,

Wm. C. Bryant,

Walter L. Cochran,

Bayard Clark,

Stephen Cambreling,

Wm. F. Leggett,

Lorenzo Snow,

John T. Bruce,

Dani. C. Eaton,

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Henry J. Whitehouse, D. D.

Jonathan Sturges,

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Richard C. Moore,

Gen. Jas. Talmadge,

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Jacob R. Le Roy,

Thomas Denny,

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Wm. Kemeys,

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Henry A. Kerr,

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Rev. E. Lathrop,

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John Caswell,

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Wm. K. Lothrop.

Wm. H. Van Wagenen.

B. W. Clapp.

John Frink.

M. Gibney.

Attending Physicians—Ex-Officio Members of the Board of Trustees.

S. R. Kirby, M. D.

Edward Bayard, M. D.

S. B. Barlow, M. D.

B. F. Joslin, M. D.
 R. A. Snow, M. D.
 B. F. Bowers, M. D.
 Jno. A. McVickar, M. D.
 Jas. M. Quin, M. D.
 John Taylor, M. D.
 Clark Wright, M. D.
 R. W. Bolles, M. D.
 Jas. H. Allen, M. D.
 John Hawks, M. D.
 H. Hull Cator, M. D.

WM. K. LOTHROP,

Secretary.

NEW-YORK

HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY,

57 BOND STREET,

*Open daily (Sundays excepted) at 3 o'clock, P.
 M. : Also at 12 o'clock M., on Saturday,
 for the treatment of Surgical Cases.*

Physicians in Attendance,

Monday.....Drs. Kirby and Barlow.
 Tuesday.....Drs. Quin and Taylor.
 Wednesday.....Drs. Snow and Bowers.
 Thursday.....Drs. Wright and Bolles.
 Friday.....Drs. Hawks and Allen.
 Saturday.....Drs. Joslin, Bayard,
 McVickar and Cator.

REVIEW OF A REVIEW OF HAHNE- MANN'S CHRONIC DISEASES.

By B. F. BOWERS, M. D., OF NEW YORK.

Continued from Page 201.

These sound practical views of Dr. Paris, accord entirely with the doctrines of Hahnemann on this subject. The illustration which Dr. Paris has given in the effects of pinching and titillation may explain what is meant by the potency of Homœopathic remedies. Suppose it is desired in a given case for instance, to produce that peculiar condition of the system which results from tickling, and that the attempt is made to accomplish it by means of a crowbar. Powerful as this instrument undoubtedly is for many purposes, it will be found impotent for this purpose. The most expert operator cannot manage by any skill, with so hard and heavy an implement, to give that light and peculiar touch which will excite the peculiar sensation desired. But take a small portion of this iron bar and beat it out, attenuate it, until it acquires a feathery softness, and it will also have acquired a power

of producing this specific effect which before it had not.

The means employed by Hahnemann in the preparation of the Homœopathic remedies ensures their attenuation or subdivision to an extent before unattained, and by any other means unattainable. This circumstance gives rise to the expectation that remedies so prepared will manifest, by their peculiar effects, powers which in their cruder, coarser forms they do not possess. Experience has fully verified this reasonable expectation and shown the higher development of their dynamic action.

On the subject of doses, Hahnemann says: "The question that now suggests itself is, to discover what may be the degree of minuteness of the dose best calculated to render the salutary effects intended to be produced certain and gentle—that is to say, how far the dose of a Homœopathic remedy, in any given case of disease, ought to be reduced in order to derive from it the best possible cure. It may readily be perceived that no theoretical conjecture will furnish an answer to this problem, and that it is not by such means we can establish, in respect to each individual medicine, the quantity of the dose that suffices to produce the Homœopathic effect, and accomplish a prompt and gentle cure. No reasonings, however ingenious, will avail in this instance. It is by pure experiments only, and precise observations, that this object can be attained. It would be absurd to bring forward as an objection the large doses used in ordinary medicine, which are not applied to the suffering parts themselves, but merely to those not attacked by the disease. This would be no argument against the minuteness of the doses which pure experiments have proved to be necessary in Homœopathic treatment."—(Organon, p. 203, § 2781.)

Proceeding upon the aphorism of Lord Bacon, that : *man can act and understand in as far as he has observed the order of nature ; more he can neither know nor do :* Hahnemann selects the remedy upon a peculiar principle, prepares it in a peculiar manner, administers it in a peculiar dose, observes its operation, and learns by experience that it produces peculiar effects. The reviewer denies that such effects are produced, not because he has made similar observations, or has any experience under similar circumstances; but because he has observed dissimilar effects under entirely different circumstances. As a physician argu-

ing against Homœopathy once said to me; "If you wished to preserve a barrel of pork, which would you take, a *Homœopathic dose*, or a *busket of salt*?" A busket of course. "Why then would you make a difference and give a Homœopathic dose to cure a patient?" Because, I answered, I would not treat a live man like a dead hog. Much of the reasoning against Homœopathy and small doses is equally pertinent and logical. It takes a bushel of salt to cure a barrel of pork, therefore it must require a large quantity to cure a patient. The vicious course of a priori reasoning upon questions which can only be decided by experience, the influence of a priori medical doctrine, according to Dr. Barlett, has greatly aggravated, and in many cases wholly produced the abominable atrocities of wholesale and indiscriminate *drugging*.

"Let them weigh, if they can," says Hahnemann, "the injurious words which excite a bilious fever, or the afflicting news of the death of a son, which terminates the existence of an affectionate mother." The phenomena of life, "the totality of the functions which resist death" show that the animal organism is put in relation with an immaterial principle, which governs and controls it; and it is only while this relation is maintained, that the life of the body can be preserved. Is it strange or incredible then, that this organism, so wonderfully and fearfully made, should be influenced by agents far too subtle to be laid in the balance, or to be detected by chemical tests! When the miasm which produces the cholera has been weighed and analysed, it will be time enough to deny the physical action upon the animal organism of physical agents too subtle for chemical analysis. In the mean time it is not the part of true philosophy to deny "the order of nature, discovered by careful observation," because it does not conform to our pre-conceived opinions.

The reviewer asks: "What evidence has he" (Hahnemann) "given us of candor, love of truth, and devotion to science. It is confessed that Hahnemann had tried but very few, if any experiments, when he announced the universality of the *Homœopathic law*. He had not even applied it in the treatment of a single disease at the time of its announcement, but arrived at it, as he acknowledged, chiefly from noticing the effects of a single medicine on himself: viz; *quinine*. "From that time

until the appearance of the "*Organon*," he was engaged not in applying his principles in the treatment of disease, but in experimenting with drugs in infinitesimal doses on himself and his students. The *Materia Medica Pura* (Part 1st) which appeared in 1811, contained the results of these experiments, not one of which, we feel confident in saying, had been verified either by himself or any one else at the bedside. "That these effects were purely *imaginary*, we feel assured," &c. How do the facts agree with these statements? After discovering the Homœopathic law, Hahnemann was engaged for six years in arduous investigations before he published his first dissertation on the subject; and it was not until he had devoted 20 years of indefatigable labor to the subject, that the "*Organon*" was published, and still another year was necessary before he was ready to publish even the first part of the *Materia Medica Pura*. Haller had pointed out the necessity of improving the *Materia Medica* by trials of drugs upon persons in health; but Hahnemann was the first one who seriously applied himself to the work, and his immense labors in this department have produced results which will evince to future ages his noble devotion to science. The deep religious feeling by which he was actuated, and with which he endeavored to inspire his fellow laborers, appears from his publications and private correspondence.

The publication of his doctrines and the results of his experiments, that others might enjoy the benefit of his labors; the patient endurance of so much labor and suffering through so many years for the purpose of verifying his observations and as far as possible guarding against error, would to some minds afford evidence of his candor and love of truth. But the reviewer charges Hahnemann with dishonest concealment because he did not publish his work on Chronic Diseases before it was fully matured in his own mind, while it was "but half accomplished" and again objects to the publication of the results of his enquiries matured by the labor of twenty years, as prematurely and hastily done without taking sufficient time and care to verify his facts.

(To be Continued.)

INCONSISTENCIES OF THE OBJECTIONS TO HOMŒOPATHIA.

There are but two schools of medicine; the Allopathic and the Homœopathic. These are opposed to one another. That each should zealously contend for its own is neither unnatural, nor unprofitable. But if either school resorts to misrepresentations, to unjust personalities, or to downright falsehoods, such conduct is an acknowledgement of weakness. In these respects we have cause to complain of our opponents. In our judgment, the medical profession was never so degraded as by the course pursued by the Allopathic school, towards its formidable rival, the Homœopathic school. The latter is ready and willing to meet the former in any honorable way it may see fit to point out; but the Homœopathic school cannot humble itself so low, as to engage, as its opponent has done, in the dirty work of attacking private character; or meddling with the moral standing of individual members of the profession.

We never could perceive any connection between medical science and art; and the moral character of their professors. We do not comprehend how a system of medicine, can be judged of, by determining, whether its adherents are honest men or scoundrels; nor do we perceive the relation of the professional standing of a person, to the method he may employ in the treatment of the sick. Very lately a Professor of a Medical College urged upon his class, that "a strong man of the profession" had not embraced Homœopathy, therefore it was not true. Now, although the statement is false, yet if it were not so, how can the truth or falsity of Homœopathy be determined in that way? Why do Allopathic physicians resort to such absurdities in opposing Homœopathy? The answer to this question, is furnished in the history of medicine: it is this; physicians for hundreds of years, have not duly respected the intelligence of the people in anything connected with the healing art. The Allopathic school in this country, has a short time ago, expressed itself most decidedly on this point; and it is now, with that school, as it always has been, the settled policy, to keep from the people, as much as is possible, all knowledge of medicine; and treat with contempt all opinions from that source touching the different modes of treating disease. This policy having originated in the dark ages, has reached our day;

and as it was in former times, so it is now, the occasion of the grossest impositions upon the sick. Would a well educated Allopathic physician, in learning and in experience, dare to charge any one with the practice of quackery, if he believed the people capable of judging of his own mode of treating disease? He would not. He would be the very last to even name the subject of quackery. Probably there is no one thing of which the profession, until this century, has been so united, and which has been so carefully guarded as the above named policy. It has been engrafted into the code of medical ethics, and stood out prominently there, so much so, that it has been almost the very first lesson of the student of medicine. But a change has taken place, we will not at this time inquire by what agency; but speak of the fact—that the science of medicine is no longer closed to the people. They themselves have opened it unto themselves. About thirty years ago it was suggested that anatomy and physiology ought to be taught in our common schools, which was advocated by the friends of education. Soon thereafter, popular lectures were delivered on these and kindred branches, and progressing step by step absolutely unperceived by the Allopathic school of medicine, thousands of the laity of cultivated minds, have possessed themselves of a knowledge of the true state of the healing art, as it existed in that school; perceived its absurdities, its utter inadequacy to the object; and the hazard of submitting to its no principle mode of treating disease. This gave rise to such men as Sylvester Graham and Bronson, who travelled through our country, lecturing to popular assemblies, on diseases and their cure, and exposing the "humbuggery" of Allopathy. The people felt and do yet feel that the medical profession had kept from them important information, to which they had been entitled. This tended to a distrust of the regular members of the profession, and thousands fell into the hands of the nostrum-mongers, and a number of these secured large fortunes; and what added to the popularity of these doctor merchants was the fact, that about as many sick recovered from the use of their pills and poisons, as did, under the same practice conducted by regularly educated physicians. Some went so far, as to assert that they could see no difference in the effect of an emetic or cathartic from a druggist or from a physician with a college diploma. Hence, to save the

fee of the one, they patronized the other. In truth, things became in such a state of confusion, that confidence in the medical profession was so much diminished, that the oldest members of it, exclaimed "we have lost the confidence of the community."

It is not doubted, that we know of, that to be a safe practitioner of medicine, it is essential to have daily communication with the sick. This truth, has been practically acknowledged in all ages. There are hundreds of learned members of the medical profession who would not be trusted, scarcely with an ordinary case of disease; for the reason, they lack practical knowledge.

The history of the profession shows, therefore, that persons may know its principles, and at the same time be incompetent to their application; and yet, be able to detect in others deviations from established principles. In this way, intelligent laymen become judges of medical doctrine and practice. The Allopathic school wraps itself in a cloak of pride and mystery; and arrogantly discourses of the "gullibility of the people;" the "ignorance of the people;" and they have the impudence to publish, with, of course the expectation of being believed, that although Homœopathy may cure as many sick persons as Allopathy; yet it is a "humbug;" and an "imposition on the community." It is so, not because the sick are cured; but no "strong man of the profession has embraced it." It is a humbug! for some of those who practice it had nothing to do, until they embraced Homœopathy. It is a humbug! for some of its practitioners are not of good repute in morals. It is a humbug!! the *New York Journal of Medicine*, has published that Hahnemann, was a knave, and confessed his hypocrisy on his death bed. It is a humbug!! for some of its professed practitioners sometimes practice Allopathy. It is a humbug!! because it is absurd to suppose that a grain is more than a pound. It is a humbug!!! because it would take all the water of the universe to prepare a single medicine of the 30th attenuation. It is a humbug!!! for James Johnson, M. D. Physician extraordinary to the King, ridiculed it. It is a humbug!!! for the colleges, which see clean through everything, have declared it to be a "humbug." It is a humbug!!! for it employs small doses. It is so, because the medicines are highly concentrated and poisonous. It is so, because it does nothing. It is a humbug!!!! because the people think a system

of medical practice is true, if it cures diseases; for regular Allopathic practitioners, recognise no such, common sense, test. It is beyond a doubt, the greatest of humbugs!!!! for a majority of the medical profession every where oppose it; and the most intelligent of the people every where embrace it. The above are some of the objections of opponents to Homœopathy; which we have seen in medical journals and newspapers. But the time has come to clear away such nonsense. The people now know that Allopathy as a system is a failure; which is admitted by many "strong men" of the profession. The change in practice that is taking place in the Allopathic school, astonishes even ourselves. The quantity of drugs prescribed by practitioners of that school is diminishing. The lancet, comparatively, is seldom used, and even leeches are not much in demand. The blue pill and calomel are laid aside for hydriodate of potash; which is the fashionable medicine of the day; but its failure to cure, will soon cause it to be laid aside for something else. We have not room to pursue this subject further.

(For the American Journal of Homœopathy.)

RATIONAL MEDICINE.

MESSRS EDITORS:—

We hear much said of *Rational Medicine* by the practitioners of Allopathy, from the fact I suppose, that they claim to practice it par excellence. Can any one give us a definite idea of what is meant by the term? I think our friends of the Allopathic School should hold a world's convention, and adopt a code of principles, by which all should be governed, and which should receive the approbation of the entire profession, at least that part of it which lays exclusive claim to legitimacy; and until they do this, I think the terms Quack and Humbug, come with an ill grace from those, who quarrel amongst themselves, and fight each man on his own hook.

Till they promulgate some universal principle, and to which they can all subscribe, how can they complain of a class, for agreeing to practice by a common rule? How absurd to abuse them because they do not follow all the theories of the books and schools, both of the present and past ages—from Hippocrates to the latest and most fashionable

theorist. We are in the dark in this matter, and would wish to know, *ex cathedra*, what orthodoxy is.

Who ever knew two Allopathic physicians agree perfectly, in their views of any single case? And how common to hear them express mutually, their contempt for the skill the world gives the other credit for possessing?

A certain M. D. of this city, and one who ranks himself among the "upper ten," was not long since mentioning that he had lost a patient, and after rehearsing the particulars of the case, said: "why Doctor, I bled her *thirteen times in six days, and yet, she died!*"

Gentlemen of the old school, what say you? Should she have been bled again? The case was peritonitis.

For my part, I am surprised at the confidence reposed in the almighty power of medicine, not only by the faculty, but sometimes by the laity.

I once met a poor fellow, who had recently lost a child, and after the usual compliments, I asked him how many children he had. He answered "we have two, had three; one died the other day. God wanted him, so he took him." "Ah John, what ailed him?" "Don't know, you see, he would die; God wanted him, so he took him." "What did you do for him John? Did you have any doctor?" "No, didn't have any doctor, but we did everything in the world for him. We gave him just as much brimstone and molasses as he could eat, but he would die; God wanted him, so he took him."

I suppose he has full faith in the saving power of brimstone and molasses to this day; and I suppose our friend the Dr. has full faith in the saving power of bleeding. But is not this one of the rocks on which Allopathy is splitting? Is there not some rebellion in the ranks in regard to the practice of exsanguination? Are all Allopaths agreed in this matter of considering the blood the great cause of evil, and source of all inflammation? and that therefore bleeding is the great "*tolle causam*"?

I am induced, Gentlemen, to make these observations from the fact, that during a practice of nineteen years, I have felt myself impelled to depart from the rules laid down in what are called standard works, and from the lessons taught me at the schools; and have felt myself, as it were, at sea without chart or compass, preferring to trust to my own

judgment, for finding a haven, rather than follow the false lights which I saw daily making shipwreck of all who implicitly trusted to them. I can only speak for one, but to me there has always appeared more truth than poetry in Cobbett's observation in regard to Calomel. In the time of the prevalence of the Yellow Fever in Philadelphia, Dr. Rush was in the habit of calling Calomel the *Sampson* of the *Materia Medica*. Cobbett, in making some strictures upon the practice of the faculty, said it might well be called the *Sampson* of the *Materia Medica*; for while *Sampson* only slew his thousands, Calomel, in the hands of Dr. Rush and his disciples, was slaying tens of thousands. The witicism cost the poor fellow five thousand dollars.

What Cobbett said of Calomel, I have believed true of all the Herculean remedies, such as Bloodletting, Antimony, Iodine, Arsenic, &c.

Could the countless thousands who have fallen victims to these tremendous agents, be summoned to speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, humanity would stand aghast at the rehearsal, and would gladly leave to death, the trade and occupation of which he has been deprived by the doctors. O.

New York, Jan. 1848.

NEW YORK HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY ASSOCIATION.

It is with no small measure of pride and satisfaction that we are able to announce the complete organization of a Dispensary, for the purpose of affording the poor of our city the opportunity of enjoying the benefits of the Homœopathic treatment of disease; and to publish the names of Gentlemen, who have undertaken to establish it upon a firm basis, and to give it a character for permanency and unlimited usefulness. The Gentlemen connected with this Institution, and whose intelligence and high standing in society are too well known to need eulogy, have enlisted in this enterprise from a desire to see the advantages of the Homœopathic treatment extended to thousands who are otherwise unable to avail themselves of it. Of the superior safety and efficiency of this mode of treatment over all others, they have become convinced by its effects upon themselves and their families, and this public manifestation of their convictions and preferences on the

subject of medical practice, cannot fail of its influence in directing the public attention to the important questions, as to the best means of preserving health, and treating disease.

This is the first public Institution of the kind in this country, and we cannot but hope from its great amount of good, both in the benefits it will confer as a charitable and benevolent institution, but in its tendency to advance the public mind in a knowledge of our art, and to impress it favorably in regard to its claims to take the place, par excellence, of the true healing-art. Provision has been made for the establishment of other Dispensaries, and we hope to see the usefulness of the Association widely extended, as we have no doubt of the energy and efficiency with which the efforts to sustain the enterprise will be attended.

(Continued from p. 203.)

CHARACTERISTICS AND PHYSIOGRAPHY OF THE GENUS CROUP AND ITS SPECIES.

From the *N. Archiv.*, Vol. II. 2, with Modifications and Additions.)

II.

PHYSIOGRAPHY OF THE GENUS CROUP AND ITS SPECIES.

3.—*Spongia-croup.*

Hoarseness. S. H.

Difficult breathing, as if a plug were sticking in the glottis, and by narrowing the calibre of the larynx, prevented the breath from passing.* (Lehm.)

Painful pressure above the thyroid cartilage increased by touch, (immediately. Hornb.)

Whilst singing, a pressive pain in the region of the larynx (after six hours. Hartm.)

Scratching, burning, and constriction of the larynx. (Lehm.)

Hollow cough, with some expectoration, day and night. Fr. H.

Whilst coughing, pain in the chest and trachea, with roughness of the throat. S. H.

* "Homœopathy has discovered the most remarkable application of *Spongia* in that most frightful disease—croup, chiefly from this and some other symptoms when the local inflammation is first subdued the smallest dose of *Aconite*. The subsequent employment of a small dose of *Hepar* is seldom necessary."—(Hahnemann's *Materia Medica pura* Vol. VI, p. 199.)

Dry cough, (after a quarter of an hour. S. H.)

Frequent nocturnal cough, lasting two minutes, with bad temper. S. H.

Great tightness of chest, (after ten days. S. H.)

Slow, deep respiration, as if after fatigue, for several minutes, (after half an hour. S. H.)

After dancing, great rapidly of breathing, very quick panting breath. S. H.

Concomitant Affections.—The eyes are deeply sunk. S. H.

Paleness of face. S. H.

During dinner, after blowing the nose gently, violent and long continued epistaxis, (after three days. Haynel.)

Pain as if the cervical gland near the larynx and trachea were swollen (after three hours. S. H.)

In the interior of the throat, especially after eating, shooting, and externally in the throat, sensation as if something were pressing out there, morning and evening. S. H.

Painful tension on the left side of the neck, near the pomum Adami on turning the head to the right side after an hour and a half. Wislc.

The urine deposits a thick grayish-white sediment. S. H.

Swelling of the hands, the fingers cannot be bent. S. H.

In the morning, on awaking, he laid bathed in perspiration, (after twenty-five hours. Long.)

Quick full pulse, (after half an hour. Wagner.)

Burning hot sensation in the forehead, without any perceptible external heat, with rapid hard pulse for half an hour, (after quarter of an hour. Wagner.)

Headache, anorexia, sleepiness, weariness over the whole body, morose; every thing vexes her. Staphf.

Morose; he spoke and answered unwillingly. Wagner.

ADDENDA.

I. *Clinical Observation.*—*Tinc. Spongia*, gtt. j, preceded by *Aconite* 24. The patient a girl, six months old awoke with a violent, harsh, hollow-sounding cough. Voice hoarse. Respiration quick, little impeded, but with much rattling. Great fever, skin hot and dry. The cough had all the character of croup. The following morning nothing remained but a simple catharrhal affection, which yielded to *Hepar* 22. Staph, *Archiv*, VI, 2 p. 65.

Spongia, 30; four hours after *Aconite* 24. After the cessation of a coryza, on awaking in the morning, the patient a boy of three years and a quarter old has a hollow, barking, dry cough, with croupy sound; short attacks of rattling in the windpipe whilst breathing. Skin hot. Frequent stretching and yawning. Whilst coughing he makes faces, and complains of pain under the larynx. Coughs most in the forenoon. Lachrymose humour. Pulse hard, rapid: In two days the child had completely recovered. Tietz. *Annal.* I, 214.

Spongia, 30; six hours after *Acon.* 24. The child a boy of four years old, very scrofulous and cachectic looking, sat up in bed. Face bloated and bluish. Expression anxious. Breathing difficult, rattling, with much effort of the chest, and distortion of the facial muscles; the eyes project, the head is bent backwards. Cough, whistling and resonant; the patient seizes hold of the nearest object and grasps at his larynx, which is painful, with perspiration from anxiety. Pulse quick, 110. Great heat, and continual thirst. Whilst coughing, frequently involuntary discharge of feces and urine. The affections had completely disappeared by the following morning. Hartman, *Annal.* 11, p. 220.

Spongia, 30; three hours after a dose of *Acon.* 24. A little girl, two years old, presenting all the symptoms of croup. An hour after the *Spongia* she was quite well. A relapse that she had yielded to the same remedy with equal rapidity. Hartlaub, *Annal.* 111, p. 151.

Spongia, 30; six or eight hours after *Acon.* 24. The patient a boy of eighteen months old, previously very strong and lively, was a prey to burning fever; face red; dry skin; violent thirst; constipation. Hoarse, rough, deep, barking cough, which he tries to suppress. Breathing rattling and whistling. Starting up in sleep and anxious breathing. When lying, he bores his head backwards into the pillow. In four days the recovery was complete. Tietze *Annal.* IV, p. 37.

Spongia 30; eight hours after *Acon.* 24. The child, a boy five years of age, previously very robust, after a chill was affected at night, with burning heat of skin, redness of face, headach, and delirium. Rough, hoarse voice. Rattling, whistling respiration. In two days the child was playing about in the open air as usual. Tietze, *Annal.* IV, p. 38.

Spongia, 30; six hours after a dose of *Acon.* 30. The patient a girl of eighteen months old

had been treated previously by an Allopathic physician, with eight leeches to the neck, and a white powder, probably Calomel, and was declared by him to be beyond recovery. There was great heat, and frequent attacks of suffocation, with cough. Hoarse, rough voice. Whistling respiration, audible at a distance. The region of the larynx painful. Starting up in bed, as if she would be suffocated. Boring backwards of the head. Ill-humour, crying, indifference to every thing. The *Spongia* had to be repeated the following morning, and a slight cough that remained was successfully combated by a dose of *Hepar*. Tietze. *Thorer's prakt. Beitrage*, 1, 196.

Spongia, 30; three hours after *Acon.* 30. The child six months old had been labouring for three hours under all the symptoms of croup. Eight hours after the treatment commenced it was out of danger. Weigel. *Thorer's prakt. Beiter.* III, g. 128.

There are many similar cases on record, and still more where a successful result was obtained by the following up the administration of *Spongia*, by a dose of *Hepar* a few hours afterwards, but these will suffice.

2. Sources.—Hahnemann's *Materia Medica pura*. Vol. VI.

Abbreviations.—Besides those already given, are, Lehm., Lehmann; Hornb., Hornburg; Hartm., Hartmann; Wislc., Wislicenus.

APPENDIX. A.

Medicines which promise to furnish independent varieties of Croup, on further proving.

Arsenicum.

The larynx is dry. S. H.

The voice is shaky. Guilbert.

Unequal voice, at one time strong, at another weak. Kaiser.

Rough voice and hoarseness. S. H.

Roughness and hoarseness of the throat in the morning. S. H.

Constant tickling in the whole windpipe, causing him to cough, irrespective of respiration. R. H.

Cough, from a constrictive sensation at the upper part of the trachea, as if from the vapour of sulphur. S. H.

Frequent, quite dry, short, barking cough, from a choking sensation in the larynx, as if from sulphureous vapour. S. H.

Short cough, without expectoration, from irritation in the trachea. (Langh.)

Cough, especially after drinking. S. H.

Cough awakes him at night : strong impulses, so that he almost choked, and his neck swelled. S. H.

Dry, fatiguing cough. Stork.

Breath very short. Hlb. and Tr.

Difficult breathing. Tachenius.

Impeded respiration, with great anxiety. Kaiser.

Anxious, groaning respiration. Gulbert.

Frequent oppressive dyspnoea, in all positions, with anxiety. S. H.

Great tightness of breath. Fyl.

Long-continued tightness of chest. Guldeuklee.

Tightness of the chest, often returning. Morgagni.

His breath leaves him in the evening, the instant he gets into bed,—although he does so, and lies down as carefully as possible yet there is a shrill whistling sound in his constricted windpipe, such as is produced by a fine harp-string. S. H.

She imagines she will be choked every instant, and is so weak, she cannot make a deep inspiration. Whl.

Sudden catarrh at night, threatening suffocation Majault.

He is like to choke, and protrudes the tongue. Wedel.

Choking catarrh. *Misc. nat. cur.*

(To be Continued.)

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